

THE COMMITTEE FOR LORNE

May - what a month!!! At the beginning we saw our water storages reach all time lows with the Allen Dam dropping to just over 30% capacity, and then the rains arrived right on cue. Rainfall during the month will see our local reservoir return to just under full capacity in time to welcome winter, an amazing example of such a great water catchment.

The irony of it all being that between the rains the sun has still shone and delivered temperatures in the low to mid twenties, which has had locals and visitors still enjoying the wonders of the ocean. As autumn draws to a close the favourable seasonal pattern has appeared to see the year pass by quicker than most. Its hard to believe that within five weeks it will be "downhill to Christmas"- where has it gone?

Earlier in the week, I was privileged to be one of just under 4000 delegates representing the real estate industry at the Gold Coast Convention centre as we listened to an "A list" of Australian and International speakers sharing the latest trends and views within the industry from around the globe. There were some great learning's over the two days but it was the experiences we all shared outside of the conference that was so noticeable to us.

Whether it be the taxi drivers that were so helpful, knowledgeable and keen to offer their services for forward journeys or the hospitality staff that went out of heir way to ensure we were looked after in every way, they all did it naturally with a smile. I asked myself, "I wonder whether visitors to our town leave having the same feeling that we just experienced?"

When I dug deeper I soon learned that the Commonwealth Games in 2018 are fast approaching and the Gold Coast people are gearing towards making it a memorable experience. The service and experience we received was first class and will stay in our minds and yet the games are still two years away. We all agreed, what you remember most are the personal experiences and memories from being genuinely well looked after and this experience can actually exceed the experience of the actual location itself.

In the knowledge that the Lorne Business and Tourism Association is working closely with Monash University in surveying the visitor experience to the coast prior to promoting, sharing and creating the Lorne customer service experience it is an exciting time as we await their guidance and leadership towards the goal.

Great to hear that last week the Member for Western Victoria, Gayle Tierney, announced a \$40,000 Victorian Government Grant to assist the completion of the Master Plan and the Business Case for the Point Grey precinct - stay tuned.

Ian Stewart

Ian Stewart
Chairman
Committee for Lorne

Festival doyens set to transform Lorne's sixth annual Festival of Performing Arts (FOPA)



A new, accomplished festival management team was revealed to the Lorne community at a public meeting at Mantra Lorne in early May. The remarkable line-up includes nationally recognised directors from Australia's most celebrated festivals now preparing to reinvigorate Lorne's FOPA and build on the Festival's established success.

The illustrious group - hand-picked by the Lorne Community Arts and Culture Foundation board with Chairman Peter Spring at the helm - includes Executive Director Naomi Daly (The Falls Music and Arts Festival), Artistic Director Edwina Lunn (Darwin Festival, Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Edinburgh Festival Fringe) and Artistic Associate Clara Iaccarino (Sydney Festival, Darwin Festival) who are planning to deliver a captivating performing arts program right here in Lorne.

Instigating the meeting, Ms Lunn said "The community's input is hugely important. If you build a great event for the community to share in and enjoy, then other people from outside the immediate area want to come and be part of that also".

New Marketing & Development Manager, Charmaine Robbins (ABC Arts, Underbelly Public Arts Lab & Festival, Ghostwood) will lead intensified marketing efforts including long term investment in the new FOPA

brand, website, ticketing process and promotional strategy.

FOPA's new Event Operations Manager, Damon Jones (Melbourne Festival, Adelaide Festival) will deliver an exceptional event with an enhanced focus on audience comfort and experience.

Together the fresh team are now implementing their strategy to deliver on the event's tourism boosting objectives through:

- Delivering a new striking and user friendly website
- Creating a more engaging 'Festival Hub' of activity
- Refining the iconic Gala event
- Prioritising free outdoor performances and family friendly shows
- Working with local businesses to deliver a comprehensive visitor strategy including package deals and a more integrated dining experience

If you would like to connect with the team find us at www.facebook.com/FOPA, email info@fopa.com.au or comment via post to PO Box 225, LORNE VIC 3232. We would love to hear from you.

Edwina Lunn
Artistic Director



NICKY PERKIN

COMMUNITY PROFILE

UK born Nicky met an Australian, Keith, in London, married him and in 1991 immigrated to Melbourne.

In 1996 Keith was offered a job in Sydney so the couple relocated north.

Although loving art as long as she can remember it wasn't until the family moved to Sydney that Nicky had an opportunity to study art formally. She attended Sydney College of the Arts for six years ultimately gaining her Masters in Visual Arts.

Having been a volunteer at the Lorne Sculpture Biennale in 2014 Nicky was happy to join the committee last year as 2016 Education Officer for the Deakin University sponsored Sculptor in Schools program. Schools participating were Surf Coast Secondary (Torquay), Lorne/Aireys Inlet, Apollo Bay, Trinity College (Colac) and Brauer College (Warrnambool). Participating students worked with an allocated exhibiting artist to produce a sculpture which was exhibited in Lorne during the second weekend of the Biennale. For many students this was the first time they had been exposed to sculpture as an art form.

At weekends throughout the event you may have seen Nicky assisting with the children's workshops on the foreshore run by Peter Day. Where would we be without volunteers like this?

Nicky is a painter. She has exhibited at Sculpture by the Sea in Bondi twice and has exhibited at Qdos. Her studio will be open in August for the Surf Coast Art Trail. She says after art her passion is cooking. She also enjoys live theatre and travel, especially to UK to visit family. She and Keith recently visited Vietnam and have plans for India which is next on the agenda.

The Perkins retired to the Surf Coast in 2013 having owned a beach house in Fairhaven for a number of years.

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LORNE WARD EVENTS CALENDAR

JUNE

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| 4 | Lorne vs Alvie football and netball , at Stribling Reserve, juniors matches from 9am, seniors at 2pm |
| 11 | Lorne Foreshore Market , 9am - 4pm |
| 11 | Lorne vs South Colac football and netball , at Stribling Reserve, juniors matches from 9am, seniors at 2pm |
| 12 | Lorne & District Men's Shed - Grand Opening . Stribling Reserve, Cnr William and Otway Streets, Lorne. Sunday June 12, 2016. 12.00pm - 2.00pm. The opening of the Lorne and District Men's Shed is a free event encouraging the community to come together and learn how this facility will become a regional epicentre for men's health. Light luncheon served. All welcome |
| 30 | Lorne Op Shop AGM . The 2016 Annual General Meeting of the Lorne Community and Hospital Auxiliary (The Lorne Op Shop) will be held at 11.45 am on Thursday 30 June 2016 at the Lorne Community House. |

Please forward the dates of your Lorne Ward community event via the contact details at the bottom of this page.

